

Message Text

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22

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

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R 281524Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7464

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THE HAGUE 0467

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, NL, GE

SUBJ: DUTCH LABOR PARTY LEADER PRAISES GDR

REF: 75 THE HAGUE 5023

1. DESPITE CRITICISM WHICH DUTCH LABOR PARTY DELEGATION REAPED FOR THEIR KIND WORDS ABOUT EAST GERMAN REGIME AFTER A SEPT 1975 VISIT TO THE GDR (REFTEL), ONE MEMBER OF DELEGATION HAS NOW EXPANDED ON THEME. WRITING IN A JOURNAL OF THE NETHERLANDS-GDR ASSOCIATION, FRANS UIJEN, A MEMBER OF THE LABOR PARTY EXECUTIVE BOARD, SAYS THAT WHAT HE SAW ON TRIP "STRONGLY ENHANCED MY RESPECT FOR THAT STATE". UIJEN CRITICIZES EAST GERMAN SYSTEM AS BEING CENTRALISTIC AND BUREAUCRATIC AND SAYS THAT NEWSPAPERS ARE ONLY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SHEETS, BUT CONCLUDES THAT CITIZENS ARE ENJOYING MORE FREEDOM, THAT THERE IS NO UNEMPLOYMENT, AND THAT BENEFITS OF TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES ARE BEING CHanneled TO MAN IN THE STREET.

2. UIJEN'S REPORT IS NOT LIKELY TO PLEASE MODERATES IN LABOR PARTY WHO ARE CONCERNED THAT A PERCEIVED SUPPORT OF THE EAST GERMAN REGIME COULD COST THEM VOTES IN NEXT ELECTIONS. UIJEN, A RECENTLY RETIRED MAJOR IN THE DUTCH AIR FORCE, DRAWS HIS OWN
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SUPPORT IN THE PARTY FROM THE FAR LEFT. HE HOPES TO BUILD

SUPPORT ON THE LEFT FOR ELECTION TO PARLIAMENT NEXT YEAR.
GOULD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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